

IN THE DRAWINGS

Amendment to the Drawing:

Figure 3 has been amended to include the operation of translating each text based task to a compiled hardware description language (HDL) task. Support for translating each text based task to a compiled hardware description language task may be found on page 10, lines 10-12, and lines 16-17. No new matter has been added. A replacement drawing is attached for this Figure, page 3 only.

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Final Office Action of October 20, 2006.

This Amendment is timely filed on January 2, 2007. The current status of the claims is summarized below.

Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 and 14 are currently amended.

Claims 1-20 remain pending.

Applicants thank the Examiner for a careful review of the application. Figure 3 of the Drawings has been amended to include the operation of translating text-based input task to hardware description language task. A replacement drawing of Figure 3 only is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks submitted in support thereof.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 12-14, 16, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Hartman et al. (U.S. PG Pub 2003/0208351) (hereinafter Hartman) in view of Akin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,182,245) (hereinafter Akin). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

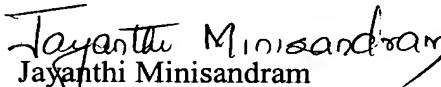
The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 6 and 10 have allowable subject matter and that the prior art made of record fails to teach associating text file based tasks of the test case to hardware description language (HDL) based tasks and executing the HDL based tasks on a model of an integrated circuit design associated with the simulation server. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 9 and 14 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter from claims 6 and 10, wherein the text file based tasks of the test case are associated with the HDL based tasks. Based on the above argument, the Applicants submit

that the claimed invention is patentable over the cited reference (Hartman, Akin, Conan and Danialy) and request the 103 rejections on claims 1-20 be withdrawn.

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present Amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 774-6905. If any other fees are due in connection with filing this Amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. ADAPP244). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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